

**SECRET**  
Security Information

3 September 1952

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MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT : Coordination of Research for Psychological Warfare

1. The problems of research in support of psychological warfare operations have been further confused by the explorations of the PSB into this field.

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2. It is my understanding that [REDACTED] was originally charged with investigating these problems with a view to: (a) insuring proper coordination of research activities in support of psychological warfare; (b) eliminating duplication; (c) assigning new research requirements; and (d) insuring full use of research presently being conducted by Government departments and agencies.

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3. A discussion with several CIA psychologists and with [REDACTED] of RQM/OIS has convinced me that research in support of psychological warfare should be undertaken in two broad categories: (a) universal determinants of action. This would involve research in the field of "pure psychology." It would collate the mass of existing information from the special point of view of psychological warfare operations. It would serve as guidance to the planners of psychological warfare operations by advising them on those psychological factors of a universal nature which motivate people to action. (b) Particular determinants of action. Research under this category could probably be confined to anthropology and sociology. The existing information in these fields would be collated again with the special point of view of the psychological warfare planner in mind to indicate to the planner those particular factors such as myths, beliefs, climate, and circumstance which are instrumental factors in motivating people to action.

4. The general field of the social sciences is important to the psychological warfare planner and operator insofar as it provides him with a broad background base of information which is necessary in the planning and the conduct of psychological warfare.

5. The PSB

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5. The PSB investigation into the field of social science research departed from a narrow investigation into research being conducted in support of psychological warfare. It concerned itself with aspects of the search which had only indirect relation to the PW problem.

6. Most of the research in the field of social sciences is of interest to Government intelligence units (for national intelligence estimates and surveys). It would have been proper for [REDACTED] to recommend that such researchers might also consider the implications of their research for psychological warfare use, but any recommendation beyond this point could only confuse an already complicated situation.

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7. Conversation with [REDACTED] Executive Officer to Loftus Becker, convinced me that the Office of DDI is not familiar with the specific needs of psychological warfare research, because such needs have never been stated. DDI has strenuously resented the intrusions of [REDACTED] into research primarily intended to serve an intelligence purpose, which is properly under DDI's jurisdiction.

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8. Recommendations:

~~a. On behalf of those Government units responsible for conducting psychological warfare in peace or war and with their cooperation,~~ [REDACTED] should:

(1) Determine the research needs of the psychological warfare planners and operators (see paragraph 3, above).

(2) Determine the extent to which these research needs are being met.

b. On this basis, [REDACTED], *DCI's assistance could be involved* in collaboration with the psychological warfare agencies, could work to: *to insure coordination, which would* *charter*

(1) Eliminate duplication.

(2) Recommend additional research to meet the full needs of psychological warfare planners and operators.

(3) Insure full Government-wide utilization of the research product.

(4) Familiarize psychological warfare units of special research needs of other units.

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Approved: [REDACTED]  
cc: RQM/OIS  
DDI/EXO

00/04/18 : CIA-RDP80-01065A000500080003-2

Research file

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D &amp; P

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